

## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 12, as follows:

C<sup>1</sup>  
In the stencil and paint labeling system, a stencil is placed against the side of a sealed and strapped OSB unit and paint is sprayed through the stencil onto the side of the unit. Generally the stencil is composed of steel or aluminum and is designed to create images of letters, numbers, and company logos or icons on the side of the unit. Some of these designs can be a bit intricate, especially around the letters and numbers. The metal around these intricate areas generally exists as narrow, strips, which are delicate and will bend or break with excessive mechanical stress.

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 22, as follows:

C<sup>2</sup>  
The present invention is a stable, labeling paint suitable for use on an OSB finishing line in conjunction with metal stencils. The labeling paint is typically applied to the side of units at spread rates of about 50 to about 300 g/m<sup>2</sup>. The labeling paint overspray that accumulates on the stencil is highly resistant to dripping and dries to form a soft film that has sufficient bond strength to the edge sealant. The labeling paint is easily removed from the metal stencil even after excessive drying times. The labeling paint is water-based and can include opacifying agents, viscosity enhancing agents, surfactants, a polymeric binding agent with a glass transition temperature that is greater than about 25°C, and a debonding agent, which is active on metal surfaces.

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 2, as follows:

C<sup>3</sup>  
A representative labeling paint was prepared as follows. A 200-liter primary mixing vessel was charged with warm water (50° C, 22.50 kg) and a hydroxyethylcellulose powder, known as Natrosol 250 MBR [~~Hereulse~~ Hercules, Inc.; Hopewell, VA] (250 g). The components were agitated by use of a Cowles disperser (6 inch blade, 1000 rpm) for a period of 30 minutes. A 50% morpholine solution (aq) (800 g) was added to the primary mixing vessel and the contents were agitated by use of the Cowles disperser (6 inch blade, 100 rpm) for an additional five minutes. A preservative, known as Dowicil 75 [DOW Chemical Inc.; Midland,

MI] (40 g) was added to the primary mixing vessel and the contents were agitated by use of the Cowles disperser (6 inch blade, 100 rpm) for an additional five minutes. A dispersing aid, known as Surfynol 104PA [Air Products and Chemical Corp.; Allentown, PA] (300 g) was added to the primary mixing vessel and the contents were agitated by use of the Cowles disperser (6 inch blade, 100 rpm) for an additional five minutes. A titanium dioxide powder, known as Tronox CR-826 [Kerr-McGee Chemical Corp.; Oklahoma City] (17.50 kg) was added to the primary mixing vessel and the contents were agitated by use of the Cowles disperser (6 inch blade, 100 rpm) for an additional 30 minutes. A warm oil mixture (65° C, 21.00 kg) was added to the primary mixing vessel and the contents were agitated by use of the Cowles disperser (6 inch blade, 100 rpm) for an additional 10 minutes. The oil mixture was comprised of a homogenous blend of soybean oil [Archer Daniels Midland Co.; Red Wing, MN] (81.67% by weight); a mixture of hydrogenated fatty acids, known as Pristerene 4910 [Unichema International; Chicago, IL] (13.33% by weight); 1-octadecanol [Proctor and Gamble; Cincinnati, OH] (1.67% by weight); and a poly(propylene glycol), average MW= 1050 Da, known as Pluracol P1010 [BASF Corp.; Wyandotte, MI] (3.33% by weight). Warm water (36° C, 13.81 kg) was added to the primary mixing vessel and the contents were manually agitated by use of a paddle in a gentle fashion until the mixture appeared to be homogenous. An acrylic latex, known as CS-4000 [Rohm and Haas Co.; Philadelphia, PA] (12.40 kg) was added to the primary mixing vessel and the contents were manually agitated by use of a paddle in a gentle fashion until the mixture appeared to be homogenous. A defoaming agent, known as Surfynol DF-210 [Air Products and Chemical Corp.; Allentown, PA] (400 g) was added to the primary mixing vessel and the contents were manually agitated by use of a paddle in a gentle fashion until the mixture appeared to be homogenous. A coalescing agent, known as Texanol [Eastman Chemical Co.; Kingsport, TN] (11.00 kg) was added to the primary mixing vessel and the contents were manually agitated by use of a paddle in a gentle fashion until the mixture appeared to be homogenous. The formulation was then filtered through a 20 mesh filter and slowly cooled to 20-25° C.

In the Abstract of the Disclosure, amend the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 4, as follows:

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C4 The present invention is a stable, labeling paint suitable for use on an OSB finishing line in conjunction with metal stencils. The labeling paint is water-based and can include opacifying agents, viscosity enhancing agents, surfactants, a polymeric binding agent with a glass transition temperature that is greater than about 25°C, and a debonding agent, which is active on metal surfaces.

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